

REMARKS

In regards to the power of attorney, a change of the power of attorney has been assigned to the undersigned attorney. The certificate of that mailing was stamped into the USPTO on January 13, 2004, a copy of which is included for your perusal.

Examiner has succinctly pointed out her objections to the claims. It should be noted that the Claims objections have been fully responded to by the amendment of the Claims as set forth below.

Examiner rejects Claims 2-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,978,768, issued to McGovern.

The abstract of McGovern aptly identifies and summarizes the functions of the McGovern system. The McGovern system "is capable of monitoring employment advertisements for a job seeker and automatically notifying the job seeker when a position for which the job seeker is suitable becomes available".

McGovern teaches a system wherein an employer can post a job, and thereby invite perspective employers to apply for that job position. It is the electronic equivalent of a want-ad. Under the teachings of McGovern a user would view a perspective employer's web site and see the job opening posted, or advertised. The job applicant could view the requirements and the employment conditions, such as pay and benefits. The potential employee could then directly contact the proper person to engage in the "application for employment" process.

The present invention departs from the teachings of McGovern in that, while the present invention does "advertise" for job openings, it goes even further. The present invention provides something that McGovern does not teach. The present invention provides an analysis of the applicant's qualifications, skills, abilities, and career requirements in regards, not only to a specific job, but to the market place and the work force as a whole. The current invention teaches a system that allows a user to access the data base, insert his or her qualifications and skills, and then receive not only a posting of those jobs that he or she is qualified for, but the present system further provides information of alterations or changes in job path that might be successful. For example, under the present invention a person may sign on and identify themselves as a person with a B.A. degree in computer engineering. Under the McGovern system that person would receive a listing of job openings for someone with a B.A. in computer engineering. Under the present invention, that person would not only receive the usual listing of job openings, but that person would also receive detailed information on what the job normally involves, what it normally pays, its predicted growth, as well as other predictions based on the data base that is used in performing the analysis. Under the present invention the user may also receive information regarding improvements they could make in their job qualifications in order to expand their job marketability. Under the present invention, that person may be advised that by learning to use a specific computer language,

their job market would then expand significantly. The person may also be advised of other occupations that match well with their skills and career goals. The present invention would provide information that would help an applicant improve their chances for employment. In a word, the present invention provides "counseling", using data and data bases that are widely available on the internet and from government sources.

The present invention also is distinguished from McGovern by the way the system may be used by employers. Under McGovern, the employer posts a position opening and must wait for the prospective employee to seek employment. Under the present invention the employer has access to similar "counseling" that is available to the employee. The employer may be provided with government data, or data from private sources, that would indicate the educational, experience and life qualifications that are generally had by a party applying for any given job position. The employer may be provided key information about the market place, such as that average salary that will assist in the process of posting jobs and hiring candidates. The employer may use the present system to identify where the employer's expectations might actually depart from the reality of the employment "market place".

Applicant submits that Claim 2, as amended, including the subsequent dependent Claims, fully responds to the Examiner's rejections of Claims 2 through 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Examiner rejects Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No 5,978,768 issued to McGovern.

Examiner correctly identifies McGovern as teaching a system that enables a plurality of companies to advertise job positions in a single location. Applicant, however, urges the Examiner to consider how much more the present invention provides to all users, other than "posting" job openings. The present invention allows a user to input his or her qualifications and skills and then inquire from the data bases as to what qualifications and skills are the "norm" for persons applying for a specific job. In addition, the present invention may provide information to the applicant on what additional qualifications might prove to be helpful in future job searches.

Applicant submits that there are broad differences between the teachings of the McGovern patent and those taught by the present invention, as set forth above. The Applicant, therefore, after having presented its arguments, requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of the Claims, and pass the application forward to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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